Volume 8, Number 3 June 1978

WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER

DEVOTED TO WESTERN STATES EXONUMIA

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WESTERN STATES TOKEN SOCIETY

The WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER is the official publication of the Western States Token Society, an informal, educational, non-profit organization dedicated to stimulating and maintaining interest in the tokens, medals and other exonumia of the Western states.

WESTS was founded in 1971 as the California Token Society, but in the same year the name was changed to the California-Nevada Token Society to reflect the interests of its members. In 1975, the scope of interest was expanded to include all the Western states, and starting in 1977, the name was changed again to its present form—Western States Token Society.

= MEMBERSHIP INFORMATION =

Dues: Dues are $5 per year, paid in advance. Members receive the WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER as well as other benefits. Those joining in mid-year receive the back issues for that year. Back issues of the LEDGER, as available, may be obtained from the Assistant Editor for 75¢ per copy, postpaid. Address changes should be reported to the Secretary-Treasurer.
Meetings: WESTS holds two general membership meetings each year—one in the spring (usually in San Francisco) and the other in the fall (usually in Stockton). Additionally, local membership meetings are arranged often by various members. All meetings are publicized in the LEDGER. Interested persons are invited to attend any of the meetings.

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= PUBLICATION INFORMATION =

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WESTERN TOKEN LEDGER

SEPTEMBER 5: - We are back in the hole as far as publishing deadlines for the *LEDGER* is concerned. Getting out one of these issues is a cooperative effort starting with the membership submitting articles or other material, the secretary-treasurer submitting his report, either Steve or I readying the copy for printing, and finally assembling the entire thing for the printer followed by collating, folding, stapling, addressing and stamping. A breakdown in any step can cause a delay, and that is what has happened. My schedule of the past couple of months has been such that I just was not able to take the four or five days it takes to put out an issue. To get things back on schedule, I plan to do another issue right away (copy deadline September 15) which will then have us back on track. This issue is a large one, while the next issue will probably be rather small. More articles are needed, and I know some of you (right away I can think of Jensen, McPheeters and Lerch who indicated they had something to write about) have interesting items for the rest of us. - DHF

3 JULY 1978: With this issue, we are once again right on schedule, a condition we hope to maintain indefinitely, i.e., until something happens which causes delay anew!

New member Bob Null has supplied a very carefully compiled catalog of gasoline vending tokens, which is really too good and too important for the Ledger, meriting separate publication in its own right. But as there is likely to be considerable expansion, the first attempt will be published in the Ledger, in two parts, in this issue and the next.

Bob is a newcomer to token collecting. I have known him for a number of years, as he is also an active and knowledgeable collector of Islamic and Indian coins, which is my professional specialty. I don't know what started him on tokens, but he loves to drive around, in the true Angelino spirit, and craves the chance to find something new for his collection, preferably at little cost. He eschews the high-priced material in any series he collects, and loves the research above all. His masterful success in obtaining historical and mintage information on the gas vending tokens is an example of his scholarship.

He is currently working on check-cashing tokens of the LA area. These are mostly dollar-size aluminum,brass, or plastic tokens, good for $1 in merchandise, and issued by service stations that offer free cashing of payroll checks. Ordinarily, they are used in the following manner. A person cashes his payroll check, and receives cash less one dollar, plus a token good for one dollar in merchandise (cigarettes usually exempted). This form of token

usage seems restricted to the Southern California area, especially the region south and east of downtown Los Angeles. In addition to such tokens used by service stations, there are a few liquor stores--I recall some in Carson and San Pedro, I believe--which use tokens in a similar manner, in conjunction with a payroll-check cashing service.

Also featured in this issue is another installment of Jerry Schimmel's token touring in Contra Costa County. He is not the first to scrounge that region of the state. I spent hours and hours in those parts back in the early and mid-1960s, when most tokens were still made of metal, and their modern usage in California quite exceptional. So I was really happy to find as many as I did in Richmond and San Pablo. Port Costa was not yet discovered in those days, but still had a grocery store, barber shop, sporting goods/newsstand, one or two taverns, and above all, a huge brothel, the Washington House, known as Dan's. Of these businesses, only the barber shop remains. The rest are now a conglomeration of artsy-craftsy restaurants and antiqueries. One town Jerry won't visit is Glenfrazer, a former community on Hwy 4 between Rodeo and Martinez, which was razed to make way for Hwy 4's widening to four lanes. In 1960, the store and gas station was already closed down, but the house behind still occupied by the former store operators. No tokens, alas! With the demise of the Asarco refining operation, Tormey has vanished too, though the old store was still going as late as about 1968. The entire town was owned by the company, and has been leveled and cleared away. Another loss was Giant, once the site of a powder and explosive plant (that might still be there), but more interesting to token collectors for a couple of bars cum brothels that were only shut down in the early 1960s, and were still going when I first drove out there. The old brothel is gone, and the lovely old Victorian which housed it has since burned down.

And there are two towns in Central Costa Costa which have recently disappeared. One was Port Chicago (earlier known as Bay Point, before 1931), which was demolished by order of the US Navy, fearful that an accident at the nearby Concord Ammunition Depot would result in a disaster similar to the accident in 1943, when an ammunition ship blew up there, killing several hundred persons, and shattering windows as far away as Vallejo. Also within the danger zone was the community of Clyde, about 2 miles south of Port Chicago. At Clyde was an old hotel, a rather lavish affair built around 1930, and as I understand, never actually opened, though portions of it were later rented to permanent residents, probably workers at the Depot. At my first visit there about 1962, the hotel was half-boarded-up, and looked quite forlorn and tumble-down. A grocery and a couple of other small businesses were then in operation in Clyde, but no bars or taverns. Port Chicago had several bars, and in one of them, I acquired several dozen old Contra Costa tokens, a real bonanza, for which I swapped Barber dimes.

= SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT =

The records for the secretary-treasurer have not all been turned over to William Williges, Jr., yet, but things are moving in the right direction, and William is getting his teeth into the job.

On the financial end, the books have not been brought up to date for transfer to Williges by Hal Dunn, but hopefully this can be accomplished in the near future. Following is an interim report:

BALANCE BROUGHT FORWARD		$00.00
INCOME		
Member renewals for 1978	$155.00	
New members for 1978	75.00	
Sale of back issues of Ledger	26.75	
Advertising in Ledger	4.00	
Total Income		260.75
EXPENSES		
Hawthorne meeting room		50.00
BALANCE ON HAND 7-9-78		$210.75

NEW MEMBERSHIPS

#234 RICHARD L. AINSWORTH, Box 42279, Las Vegas, NV 89104. Collects: merchant tokens of Clark County, Nevada; Nevada general; Arizona general

#235 BUD CARMICHAEL, 1331 Hanchett Ave., San Jose, CA 95126. Collects: US transportation tokens; Canadian transportation tokens; personal tokens of transportation token collectors; San Jose, Cal., trade tokens

#236 CAREY BURKE, P.O. Box 11063, Las Vegas, NV 89111 Collects: NV gambling chips, cheques, tokens; old tokens of NV and surrounding states; modern tokens of NV and surrounding states; some parking and car wash tokens; tokens and medals pertaining to airlines and air travel; some old postcards; some old stock certificates

#237 RICHARD McFERRAN, 6001 29th Place N., Crystal, MN 55422. Collects: tokens--Civil War, MN trade, OR trade, all US trade by town, transportation

#238 ROBERT A, SVOBODA, P.O. Box 1477, Santa Barbara, CA 93102. Collects: Montana only--tokens, medals, mirrors, postcards, first edition books, about anything else

Thanks to those members who helped sign up these new members. Also useful in obtaining new members has been sending out sample copies of the *LEDGER* together with an application blank.

= MEETING IN HAWTHORNE, NEVADA =

by Duane H. Feisel

Each June for a number of years now, WESTS has held a regional meeting in Nevada. Until now, these meetings have been held in Carson City, and have attracted collectors from a wide area, but especially those from Nevada. For 1978, the meeting was held at the Convention Center of the El Capitan Casino in Hawthorne, Nevada, on Sunday, June 25. Following is my account of this meeting.

About a week before the meeting, I got a call from Scott Jameson who knew I planned to attend the meeting. He was looking for a ride, so we made arrangements to leave on Friday morning. Our first stop was Stockton.

Only one problem--we were so engaged in conversation about softball that I drove about eight miles beyond the freeway exit I intended to take. So a little backtracking got us into Stockton and to the main library where I wanted to research a publisher of postcards from Stockton. The Stockton Library has in their open stacks a large run of Stockton City Directories--the earliest was 1854 (a photo copy of what must be a exceedingly rare volume). There is a library table located right by the directories, so searching through fifty years was not all that difficult although it did take some time. While I was looking through the books, Scott managed to package up some tokens he had brought along.

Before leaving Stockton, we made a stop at a printing firm which had produced some of the postcards of interest to me. That visit wasn't long enough, and I plan a return visit in the near future to gather whatever additional information I am able.

After stopping for lunch in Clements, we drove up near Martell to visit Frank Earl at his office. Although the main purpose of the visit was to deliver Frank's new personal token (an encased cent), we did have time to chat about tokens, and to see his extensive collection of inscribed ball-point pens from Amador County which he has displayed on one wall of his office.

From there we went the short distance to Sutter Creek where Scott and I visited a number of antique shops, and where we prevailed upon Orville Scharffer to open his shop for us. Scott and I were able to add some tokens, and I some postcards, to our collections. The time passed by quickly visiting with Orville, and since it was getting late in the day, we decided to stop for the night in Placerville--no antique or token hunting there.

The next day we were back on the road heading across the

Sierra Nevada. On this trip I was able to cover a stretch of road I had never been on before, and we passed through some beautiful country. The trip was punctuated by a brief stop in Markleeville for a cool one, to visit with the present owner of the hotel there, and to see if there were any of the older encased cents available from the general store (there weren't, and the new owner of the hotel knew nothing of any tokens).

A leisurely drive, again through new country for me, took us into Hawthorne. As we drove into this small town, we passed a Convention Center, apparently run by the Chamber of Commerce, and we thought the meeting might be scheduled for there. However, we made our way to the El Capitan where we checked into a large room--actually a suite with a separate bedroom. Previously Steve Album had called to say he had not made a reservation in Hawthorne, and would be willing to share a room. For $28 we had this suite with three beds, including a king-size bed which I had all to myself!

Few collectors had yet registered when we arrived in the mid-afternoon, so we did the natural thing and headed for the gaming tables. Time went quickly there, and eventually we saw other familiar faces. After eating and additional gambling, we had a get-together in our room for those who had arrived on Saturday. Needless to say, there was a lot of wheeling and dealing and talking until late hours. After that, a few of us even ventured back to the tables. One thing I learned (should say relearned as I had my first lesson in Carson City) is not to visit the craps and/or roulette tables with Don Finch!

After a few hours sleep, it was time for breakfast. By the time I had eaten, things were well underway in the meeting room which had opened at 9 AM. There was ample table space and a lot of chairs available. Among those attending were: Sam Michael and wife of Mesa, AZ, Phil Jensen, Jack Haddock, Adele Reed, Len Hoskins, John Schilling, John Veil (non-member collector of NV tokens), Tom George (ditto) and wife, Steve Album, Larry and Dianna Elman, Leon Hubbard, Bill Wright, Harry Milks (also a non-member collector of NV), Harold Jones, Lee Heath, Dan Jacobson, Frank Earl, John D. Renfro (non-member), Don Finch, Scott Jameson and myself. Forgot to mention Mr. Reed in the above listing.

Books, boxes and folders of tokens and related material were everywhere. I know that Scott bought a large lot of Nevada tokens, and was able to acquire a number of useful tokens including some tradeable duplicates. I bought and traded for some especially nice tokens, including ones from Alta Loma, Huntington Lake, Boca, Needles and San Fernando in California, plus some US forces in Korea mil-

itary tokens. I got a nice set of three chips from Phil Jensen (he has duplicates of these, and said he would do a short article about them for the Ledger--please take this as a reminder, Phil!), and also bought some older CA medals, a mirror and a pair of whetstones on top of other miscellaneous tokens. Also, I started a trade which will result in my obtaining a new find for the town of Thermal, California, found by Sam Michael on his way to Hawthorne!

Departing in mid-afternoon, we had planned to cross the Sierra through Yosemite National Park, but from Larry Elman and Don Finch, we learned there was a long stretch of road under construction between Hawthorne and where we wanted to go. So, altering our plans, we returned via Carson Pass, my favorite route across the mountains. We decided to make a few stops searching for modern tokens, and we did find several bars using drink chips, all of which were agreeable to letting us buy tokens. The rest of the drive to Los Altos went smoothly as we arrived late at night.

Reflecting on the event, I thoroughly enjoyed to trip and the meeting in Hawthorne. Hawthorne is still a small town, and I enjoyed the atmosphere. While the casino was busy, it was not overly crowded, and people seemed more relaxed than in some of the other more popular places. I enjoyed visiting with so many old friends, and making new friends, and was happy with all my acquisitions. I'd sure be willing to return there another time!

Almost forgot to mention that among those passing out personal tokens was Frank Earl with his new encased cent. Adele Reed also gave to everyone a packet containing a set of eight Historic Mammouth Postcards, made from photographs in her collection.

= K & K COMPANY =
SOUTH DAKOTA'S LARGEST CHAIN OF GENERAL STORES
by Jim Rasmussen

At one time or another, probably most token collectors have owned, traded or, at least, seen some of the vast number of tokens issued by K & K Company, South Dakota's largest chain of general stores.

Between the years 1923 and 1938, this chain of stores incorporated in 24 different towns in SD and one in Iowa. I am indebted to Miss Alma Larson, former Secretary of State, State of South Dakota, for information relating to incorporation data, stockholders, capital stock, etc.

Following is a list of towns and the year each K & K store was incorporated therein:

Viborg	1923	Yankton	1928
Marion	1923	Howard	1928
Freeman	1923	Parkeston	1928
Bridgewater	1923	Armour	1929
Beresford	1923	Desmet	1929
Geddes	1924	Huron	1930
Menno	1924	Wessington Spgs.	1930
Platte	1924	Carthage	1931
Kimball	1924	Mitchell	1935
Salem	1925	Sioux Falls	1938
Canton	1925	Madison (changed from Kimball)	
Parker	1926		
Artesian	1927	Haywarden, IA	1926

The principle stockholders of K & K Company were: L.J. Kutcher, Joe Kutcher, Will Kutcher, Hyman Gelfand, and M.A. Marks. Other interested stockholders were: Harry Nelsen, Harry Abbin, Max Swedelmon, Irving Levy, Abe Veygood, A. Goodsite, Ben Kalin, Harry Marsch, Harold Barick and Ben Blacher.

Capital stock issued for each store incorporated between 1923 and 1929 ranged from $40,000 to $50,000. From 1930 to 1938, each store capitalized at from $25,000 to $100,000

There is a vast variation in a multitude of different sets of tokens issued by this corporation. Basically all are

aluminum, with the exception of one brass token that is seldom seen. There are three main shapes: round, octagon and scalloped. Denominations of the sets range from 5¢ through $5.00. Most stores had tokens issued with their town and state thereon. Some tokens were for multiple towns, such as "Marion, Freeman and Platte," "Freeman and Marion," "Kimball, Platte and Geddes," etc. Some tokens carried town name plus number of stores in the mother corporation, with inscriptions such as PARKER / 12 / STORES / ALL IN SOUTH DAKOTA or TWO STORES / FREEMAN AND MARION.

There are several other sets which carry no town name, so I assume that could have been used universally in any of the K & K stores. Examples of these are:

K & K CO. / GEN. / MDSE. / 9 STORES / ALL IN S.D.

K. AND K. CO. / 11 / STORES / ALL IN / SOUTH DAKOTA

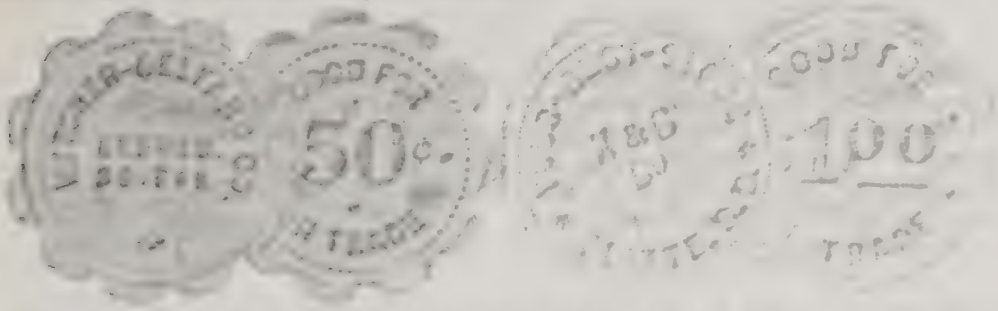
K. & K. CO. / GEN. MDSE. / 12 / STORES / ALL IN / S.D.

K & K CO. / CHAIN OF / GENERAL STORES

K.& K CO. / SOUTH DAKOTAS / LARGEST / CHAIN OF / GENERAL / STORES

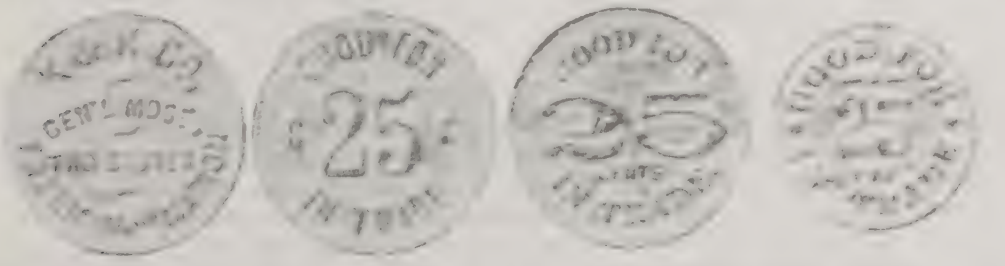
Until a couple of years ago, I know of only one specimen of the brass token. Later I received a rubbing of this token from Mr. Vinton Woodward of Iowa, so now I am aware of only two of these tokens. Then strangely--within the same week--I was able to make a trade for two other of the brass tokens! There are undoubtedly more than four of the brass tokens in existence, but I do believe this token to be on of the rarest K & K items. The obverse reads K & K CO. / SOUTH DAKOTA'S / LARGEST / CHAIN / OF / GENERAL STORES; reverse GOOD FOR / $5.00 / ON ANY SUIT OF / $20.00 OR OVER / UNTIL MAY 15TH / THIS YEAR. (Which year????) The token is round, with a beaded border both sides. Mr. Woodward, I believe, acquired the original hoard of K & K tokens from the Kutcher brothers. There must have been a barrel of them! (How times does fly--I

find from looking back through my correspondence and records that instead of a couple years, as stated above, it has been more like seven or eight years!)



Tokens issued between 1923 and 1933 indicate a partnership of Kutcher and Gelfand. A search of records of the South Dakota Department of State show nothing of this partnership nor of incorporation. Stores indicating this partnership were at Geddes and Platte. Following are examples of inscriptions of these aluminum tokens which occur in octagon and scalloped shapes:
KUTCHER-GELFAND CO. / GEDDES, / SO. DAK.
YOUR-BEST-STORE / K & G / CO / GEDDES, S.D.
YOUR / BEST / STORE / K & G / CO / PLATTE, S.D.

According to SD Dept. of State records, incorporation papers were filed in 1933 for Gelfand Stores, directors being S.B. Gelfand and Jean Gelfand of Springfield, and S.H. Gelfand of Corsica. Examples of the Gelgand tokens in the author's collection are:
S.B. GELFAND / SPRINGFIELD, / S.D.
S.B. GELFAND / GENERAL / MERCHANDISE / TYNDALL, S.D.
GELFAND BROS. / GENERAL / MDSE / KIMBALL / S.D.
GELFAND BROS. / DELMONT, / S.D.
These tokens are found in square and octagon shapes, and all are of aluminum.



Another large variation in all of the above-mentioned

tokens is in the reverse inscriptions, such as: IN MERCHANDISE, IN / MERCHANDISE, IN TRADE. The same applies to denominations--50¢, 50 / CENTS, 25 / CTS, ¢10¢, etc.

It is felt that the K & K Company operated their own stores simultaneously with the partnership held with Gelfand. No reports or documents were ever filed with the SD Dept. of State by Gelfand Stores after they incorporated in 1933. Therefore, its existence expired in 1958 with the SD Dept. of State. The only K & K store still in existence as of 1969 was in Haywarden, Iowa, having filed annual reports and in good standing with the Department of State.

The author has 166 different tokens from the combination of the associated companies as described above. I do not think it is impossible to believe that there may exist upwards of 300 different pieces including the conglomeration of varieties.

There are many questions left unanswered in this story of "South Dakota's Largest Chain of Gneral Stores." The author will appreciate any information concerning these companies and would be most greatful to trade for any tokens not in his collection. You can reach me at P.O. Box 214192, Sacramento, CA 95821.

P.P.I.E. ZODIACAL TOKENS - I have recently run across three unusual pieces from the 1915 exposition in San Francisco, of which I include a rubbing of one. The three are also struck in antiqued bronze, quite finely done on thick planchets. The common obverse bears the inscription around, SAN FRANCISCO EXPOSITION CITY 1915, and the words MY LUCKY STAR in the center, surrounded by the 12 signs of the zodiac. The reverse of the one has LIBRA SEPT. 22 TO OCT. 21, and the scales in the center, the whole superimposed on a mottled background, which I've tried to leave out in the rubbing. The other two

pieces I have so far found are Capricorn and Virgo, and I have seen a specimen of Pisces. I dread to think how many of these I have overlooked, as they could easily be dismissed as just another variety of the run-of-the-mill zodiac tokens we see all too often. I would be interested in knowing if the other pieces were made, and would also like to complete my set. These pieces have taught me to look carefully at all such items, in hopes of finding still more interesting types.

(Excerpts from an article in the Los Angeles Times, 12 June 1978, under the byline of John Kendall, a Times reporter at their Riverside-San Bernardino Bureau)

"This town (i.e., Red Mountain) is in the Rand mining district, named after a region in South Africa where a profusion of similar minerals were found. One of Red Mountain's neighbors is the old supply town of Johannesburg.

"Prospectors discovered the Yellow Aster mine at nearby Randsburg in 1895. Tungsten was located in 1907 at Atolia, once a bustling town of thousands about three miles to the west of Red Mountain.

"And, the famous California Rand silver mine, now called the Kelly mine, was found in 1919. More than $20 million in silver was taken out of the rounded, unsculptured mountains here, mostly in the 1920s.

"During the boom years, the mining camps of Inn City, Hampton and Osdick--which, combined, later became known as Red Mountain--formed one of the most wide-open mining communities in the west.

"Bootlegging, prostitution, gambling and lawlessness thrived in this area, then isolated in the desert and reached only over washboard roads.

"Inn City was also called Sin City and Gin City. More than a score of saloons and hotel bars roared with the boisterious (sic) life of one of the last frontier mining camps in the West.

"Even when the Kelly Mine closed around 1930, some girls, gamblers and bootleggers stayed on. It was not until the mid 1950s that illicit activities in the town were closed down by the San Bernardino County sheriffs office.

"To a Red Mountain man's way of thinking, the sheriff should not have done that. He is C.H. (Slim) Riffle, a resident for

more than 60 years.

"Riffle, a carpenter, millwright and entrepreneur, once built, owned and ran the storied Owl Cafe, the "Historical Building" where Bill Reed and a partner now live.

"The 88-year-old Riffle is stooped now. His hands tremble a little, and he is a bit hard of hearing, but his voice is strong and he remembers the early days clearly and with relish.

"'Oh, yes,' he recalled, 'It was a wild town. It was wide open just like those mining camps up in Nevada. It had girls and gambling and bootlegging. Every other shack was a bootlegging joint.'

"There were a lot of cabins up at Inn City. Girls in most of the cabins, too. Oh, it was a wild place. A wild place.'

(The article then goes on to describe the tale of the discovery of the Kelly Mine in 1919, and the shrewd bargaining that went into its purchase from the owner of the land, a federal judge in Los Angeles)

(The article also describes the plight of the town's 200 residents today, mostly retired folk, who are technically squatters on Federal land, but are in the process of trying to acquire legal [illegible].)

The above article should help explain why tokens are not known from Red Mountain, while they are quite common from Randsburg, and limited numbers are extant from Johannesburg and Atolia. A solitary piece is known from old Osdick. All the pieces from the area (except the Rand Fire District token) are clearly of pre-1920 vintage, i.e., before the introduction of Prohibition. Red Mountain only came into existence after Prohibition, and few saloons were willing to risk their necks by engraving a token with their name. To be sure, gambling, booze and women of the trade were rife in Red Mountain, from 1919 until about 1935, but at that time, such businesses prudently avoided the kind of open advertising a token would imply. If they used any tokens at all, they would have been the kind with just numbers or initials, and large numbers of such pieces are found by bottle-diggers and coinshooters in the area (one fellow, who lives in Pico-Rivera and goes up the Rand district every couple of weekends to dig around, has hundreds he found up there).

I've always assumed that the old saloon tokens were used primarily, if not exclusively, by legitimate operators. The case of Red Mountain supports that conclusion.

TOKENS FOR SALE: - Member John Hamilton III ran a full page ad in the August [illegible] issue of the [illegible] which he listed a wide variety of choice western states exonumia. Included was a token from a previously unlisted California town, Malibu Beach. Prices seemed to me to be rather steep, but perhaps this is an indication of where things are headed in rare tokens. - DHF

GASOLINE VENDING TOKENS

Bob Null

Within the broad field of automotive related transportation tokens, much is yet to be written. One such area is service station tokens. This listing will be confined to the pieces used in token operated gasoline pumps.

These tokens go a long way toward automating the self-service gas station. With the token-operated pumps, the attendant only takes in cash and hands out tokens. Since the pumps will not dispense gas unless the tokens are inserted, the problem of drive-aways is eliminated.

In many Eastern states, self-service gas station have been illegal until recently. Due to this, only a few eastern tokens are known to exist. The greatest concentration of stations is in Southern California.

Most of these tokens are used by the Powerine Oil Company or in equipment sold by them. Powerine was founded in 1936 by Harry Rothschild, and is headquartered in Santa Fe Springs, California. It was not until the mid 1960's that the first token-operated pumps were placed into service. Powerine has operated stations under the brands EconoMat, Pan Nova, Coin-Op, and Coin-Power. No vending tokens are known with the Powerine name, but there exist some 38 mm. aluminum pieces used as check-cashing tokens.

Many company stations have switched to a new computer-operated system that does not use tokens. It is planned to do away with tokens at the Powerine stations in the next several years. They will continue to sell the pumps for token operation to other companies.

Since 1970, the tokens have been struck by Anillo Industries of Orange, California. That firm produced all the tokens in this listing except those with reverse types 1, 2a, and 6. The mintage figures obtained from them are about 80% complete for those pieces struck by Anillo. Other tokens may exist that were not recorded, and I do expect additional reverse die combinations to be found. The records I used mostly do not show the reverse type, only the quantity minted and the date.

In a number of cases where tokens are known with both reverses 2 and 3, I have assigned the earlier striking to reverse 2. I know this is somewhat arbitrary, but it is supported by observation of quantities of tokens in circulation at several stations.

Reverse type 3 was made because some of the stations were connected with retail operations of other types. They wanted to show on the tokens that they were good for gasoline only. Reverse type 5 is an error. It should have been a new type 3 die, but the final S in SAVINGS was omitted. As of this writing, the type 5 die has been used on three tokens. Without the error, it would have been a new subtype of type 3, as the zeros in $1.00 are only 3mm. wide. The zeros in type 3 are 4mm wide.

There are other differences in the dies, but the zeros make an easy point of recognition.

Reverse type 2b was used from 1970 through mid-1974. Type 2c tokens date from late 1974 on. Type 3 tokens run from 1971 through 1976. Type 4 reverse dies were cut for the Fedco chain of membership department stores. The Fedcal brand on this die is the house brand for many products at Fedco. The type 4 die was used only in 1974. The type 5 die was cut in 1977 and may still be used for future tokens. Types 1 and 2a are of pre-1970 vintage.

The Fedco chain is also phasing out the token operation. They are converting to what is called the controlled access station. In this operation in order to leave, you must drive by the control booth where readouts tell the operator how much gas you took. Conversion of the Cerritos station is presently held up pending negotiations for permits with the city.

When a station in the Powerine chain is closed or converted from token operation, the tokens are not destroyed. They are distributed to stations still using tokens, thus eliminating the need to strike new ones. The customers will also mix the tokens by buying them at one place and using them elsewhere. As an example, I have seen 27 different tokens at the Washington & Norwalk station in Whittier CA. Only one of them was issued for that location. Two of the tokens were from Brady TX and Tacoma WA.

The white metal (WM) tokens struck by Anillo are listed by them as struck in nickel-silver, which is an alloy of nickel, copper and zinc. The bronze (BZ) tokens are listed as struck in Jewelers Bronze, an alloy of 87% copper and 13% zinc. They have also used an alloy called Richlow, which consists of 85% copper and 15% zinc. Both of these alloys start out looking almost like yellow brass but tone to appear much more like copper.

Strictly speaking, the term bronze refers to alloys of copper and tin. Often the alloy will be copper, tin and zinc, the percentage of tin dropping to near zero on occasion. A good case is the US Lincoln cent, whose original alloy was 95% copper and 5% tin and zinc. The tin content started out at about 1%, but was diminished over the years until only a trace remained. In 1962, all the tin was removed, but the alloy is still called bronze. At Anillo, they said that they refer to any alloy of copper and zinc with 10% or less zinc as copper.

I think a quote from the Encyclopedia Britannica might be of interest here. "Colours of Brass. The alloys of copper and zinc give a remarkable series of colours, of which the most notable are those with about 80% of copper, since they simulate gold, and have names which were once familiar, such as Dutch metal, Mannheim gold, pinchbeck (invented by Christopher Pinchbeck, a London clockmaker, in 1732), and others too numerous to mention. The colours due to composition vary from that of pure copper through yellow to dull white."

Pick your own terms for the tokens. I chose to use bronze for those tokens that do not look strictly yellow.

The Gasamat tokens are used differently from those of Powerine. The Powerine pumps give change if the full amount of gasoline is not pumped. The Gasamat stations I have seen use tokens CST 400A and B. They do not give change. The half-buck Gasamat token is much thicker than the Powerine tokens and would not fit the change-making pumps.

The Gasamat token CST 400C does not state a denomination and it is possible that it was used in a pump like those of Powerine. The token is the same thickness and diameter as Powerine's tokens. I obtained my specimen from a coin dealer and do not know where it has been used. There is a space on it for a serial number like the other Gasamat tokens, but my copy has none.

I have seen several Gasamat stations and all of them used the same two stock tokens. Stations are known in Eureka CA, San Bernardino CA, Santa Rosa CA, Reno NV, and Albuquerque NM. There are probably many others as well.

Gasoline vending tokens are not expensive. Coin and token dealers charge from $1.25 to $3 for them. Once in a while someone might ask more due to the fact that a particular token may be the only one available from a town. The Hacienda Heights token falls into this category. This token is still in circulation at the original station, so I feel a high price is not warranted for this piece. Most tokens not obtained at the stations cost me less than $2.

Many of these tokens are in the hands of the general public. It will take years before they all dribble into the hands of collectors and dealers.

If you have any additional information to add to this list, would you please contact me at:

M.R. Null
P.O. Box 9422
N. Hollywood CA 91609

Perhaps someday this list can be expanded to include all service station tokens, not just those used for gasoline vending.

A caution about the tokens in the listing that are known only from the records at Anillo. I saw a drawing of one token that was not exactly like the one produced. The state name had been dropped from the end (CA.). A token could vary somewhat from the listing here and still be the one referred to in the Anillo records. This applies only to those pieces from which I have not seen actual specimens.

(NOTE BY DHF: ONE TIME I VISITED A STATION USING THE TOKENS TO PUMP GAS, AND TRIED TO INTEREST THE MANAGER IN HAVING ME MAKE HIS TOKENS. HE INFORMED ME THAT THE TOKENS WERE SPECIALLY MADE, AND ONLY THOSE SPECIAL MADE TOKENS WOULD OPERATE THE PUMPS. WITH HIS PERMISSION, I INSERTED A STANDARD 1-1/4" DIAMETER BRASS TOKEN IN THE SLOT. NEEDLESS TO SAY, THE PUMP WAS ACTIVATED BY THAT TOKEN!)

STANDARD REVERSE TYPES

Rev: 1

Rev: 2a

Rev: 2b

Rev: 2c

Rev: 3

Rev: 4

Rev: 5

Rev: 1 GAS / $1.00 / TOKEN / RIGHT RESERVED TO DISCONTINUE

Rev: 2 YOUR KEY TO SAVINGS / $1.00 / MERCHANDISE / CREDIT / RIGHT RESERVED TO DISCONTINUE

(Width of Os in $1.00 are:)

a. (2.5mm)

b. (5mm)

c. (4mm)

Rev: 3 YOUR KEY TO SAVINGS / $1.00 / GASOLINE / CREDIT / RIGHT RESERVED TO DISCONTINUE

Rev: 4 FEDCAL / $1.00 / GASOLINE / CREDIT / RIGHT RESERVED TO DISCONTINUE

Rev: 5 YOUR KEY TO SAVING / $1.00 / GASOLINE / CREDIT / RIGHT RESERVED TO DISCONTINUE

(the same as 3, but final S in SAVINGS omitted)

Rev: 6 RIGHT RESERVED TO DISCONTINUE USE / (token with face and body) / ®

METHOD OF LISTING

The system of listing is based on Atwood's Catalogue of United States and Canadian Transportation Tokens. Each city is given a three-digit number, and the arrangement is by state.

The First Column lists the letter assigned to each major type of token. The full catalog number would read like: CA 450 A. This would be the first token issued for Los Angeles, California. The tokens are arranged in chronological order. The oldest token is listed first.

The Second Column indicates whether the token is still in use at the station of origin. A small "o" indicates that it is obsolete. For a current token the column is left blank.

The Third Column shows the metal the token is made of:
B = brass, BZ = bronze or copper, WM = white metal

The Fourth Column lists the diameter in millimeters of the token.

As all tokens are solid, this criterion is not indicated in the listings.

All tokens except those issued by Gasamat have plain borders. The Gasamat tokens have a toothed border on both sides.

All letters on the tokens are listed as they appear on the token. They are shown in upper or lower case as on the piece. Underlining is as shown on the token and only under those letters shown.

Reverse types are given by number when a standard die is used. Special reverses are written out in full. The guide to standard reverses comes right before this section.

Mintage figures are given when available, along with the date of striking.

When a token has been previously published, that is indicated, together with catalog references.

ARIZONA

PHOENIX 640

FOR USE ONLY AT / FAST GAS / GASOLINE / W A Cardon (signature) / 2107 SOUTH 7TH AVE. PHOENIX, ARIZONA

A o BZ 32 (Rev 2c)
(15,000 - 7/10/72; 6000 - 10/1/73; 15000 - 10/21/74; It is possible that only the last mintage was of this token. The dates for the first two mintages are early, as all other reverse 2c tokens were struck in 1974 or later.)

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / 40TH & INDIAN SCHOOL RD., PHOENIX, ARIZ.

B o WM 32 (rev 2b)
(description courtesy of Hal Birt, Jr.)

TUCSON 840

6TH & CAMPBELL TUSCON (sic), ARIZONA (incomplete information)

A o WM 32 (rev unknown)
(5000 - 1/31/73; Known only from mint records.)

CALIFORNIA

ANAHEIM 25

COIN-OP / EconoMat / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / BROOKHURST & BROADWAY, ANAHEIM

A o WM 32 (rev 1)
(Album Ora 05 R; Kappen 36)

AUTOMATED / COACHMAN / LINCOLN & BEACH ANAHEIM (incomplete information)

B o WM 32 (reverse unknown)
(8000 - 1/25/73; known only from mint records.)

BALDWIN PARK 55

FOR USE ONLY AT / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / BALDWIN PARK AVE. (sic, should be BLVD.) & FRANCISQUITO, BALDWIN PARK

A o WM 32 (rev 3)
(5000 - 7/12/72; 5000 - 12/4/72; Album La 065 B)

BASSETT 60

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / VALLEY & TEMPLE

A o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(5000 - 7/16/73)

(obverse as above)

B o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(6000 - 5/30/74; Album La 070 A)

BELLFLOWER 70

FOR USE ONLY AT / Buy-rite / GASOLINE / ALONDRA & CLARK, BELLFLOWER

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album La 075 C; Kappen 6)

BUENA PARK 105

FOR USE ONLY AT / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / ORANGETHORPE & KNOTT BUENA PARK, CALIF.

A WM 32 (Rev 3)
(2000 - 12/4/72; Probably not the full mintage; Album Ora 15H)

CANOGA PARK 120

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / TOPANGA CANYON BLVD. & ROSCOE BLVD., CANOGA PARK, CAL.

A o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(8000 - 7/12/74)

CERRITOS 150

FOR USE ONLY AT / FEDCO / STATION / G.T. van Den Huerg (signature uncertain) / CERRITOS, CALIF.

A WM 31 (Rev 4)
(10000 - 3/26/74; The piece listed as Album La 165 A is probably an error for this token.)

(DHF NOTE: THIS TOKEN WITH REV: 2b IS IN MY COLLECTION, SO THE LISTING BY ALBUM IS CORRECT.)

CHINO 170

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / PHILADELPHIA ST. & CENTRAL AVE., CHINO, CA.

A WM 32 (Rev 2c)
(6000 - 11/7/74)

CHULA VISTA 175

Coin-op / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (Signature) / 55 N. 4TH CHULA VISTA

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album Sdi 18 E; Kappen 7)

COSTA MESA 180

Coin-op / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / 17TH ST. & SANTA ANA, COSTA MESA

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album Ora 22 C; Kappen 4)

FOR USE ONLY AT / PAN NOVA / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / 17TH ST. & SANTA ANA, COSTA MESA

B o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(2000 - 11/23/70; Album Ora 22 D; Kappen 9)

(obverse as above)

C o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(2000 - 7/6/73; Album Ora 22 I)

FOR USE ONLY AT / FEDCO / STATION / G.T. van Den Huerg (signature uncertain) / BAKER STREET, COSTA MESA

D o WM 31 (Rev 2b)
(5000 - 2/2/73; Album Ora 22 F)

(obverse as above)

E o WM 31 (Rev 4)
(3000 - 1/25/74; Album Ora 22G)

CULVER CITY 205

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / JEFFERSON & SLAUSON

A o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(5000 - 8/6/73)

EAST LOS ANGELES 240

Coin-op / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / THIRD AND FORD, EAST LOS ANGELES

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album La 277 A; Kappen 1)

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / THIRD & FORD

B o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(5000 - 7/27/73; Album La 277 D)

EL MONTE 260

Coin-op / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / 3533 PECK ROAD, EL MONTE, CALIFORNIA

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album La 280 S)

FRESNO 300

FOR USE ONLY AT / PAN NOVA / Ⓡ / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / BLACKSTONE & CORNELL, FRESNO

A o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(5000 - 10/1/70; 2000 - 11/29/73; Album Fre 32 P1; Kappen 154)
(A similar token in BZ seen at Anillo is presumed to be a pattern)

FULLERTON 305

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / R B Vend (signature) / HARBOR BLVD. & BERKELEY AVE, FULLERTON, CA.

A WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(8000 - 10/15/73)

FOR USE ONLY AT / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / ORANGETHORPE & STATE COLLEGE FULLERTON, CA.

B WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(6000 - 7/17/74)

GARDEN GROVE 310

FOR USE ONLY AT / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / HARBOR & GARDEN GROVE BLVD, GARDEN GROVE, CAL.

A WM 32 (Rev 3)
(7000 - 5/3/73; 3000 - 7/5/73; Album Ora 36 A; Kappen 2)

FOR USE ONLY AT / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / EUCLID & CHAPMAN, GARDEN GROVE, CA.

B WM 32 (Rev 2c)
(8000 - 1/20/75)

HACIENDA HEIGHTS 340

Coin-op / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / HACIENDA & SHADYBEND, HACIENDA HEIGHTS

A WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album La 385 A; Kappen 1)

HAYWARD 345

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / 525 W. "A" ST. HAYWARD, CAL.

A o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(6000 - 6/8/73; Album Ala 40 AC)

HEMET 360

FOR USE ONLY AT / GAS HOUSE / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / FLORIDA & WESTERN HEMET, CALIF.

A WM 32 (Rev 3)
(3500 - 7/12/72; Album Riv 40 F)

HOLLYWOOD 370

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / HOLLYWOOD & GOWER, HOLLYWOOD

A o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(7000 - 5/22/73; Album La 420 I)

FOR USE ONLY AT / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / 7300 SUNSET BLVD., HOLLYWOOD, CA.

B o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(6000 - 10/21/74)

HUNTINGTON BEACH 375

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / EDINGER & GOLDEN WEST ST., HUNTINGTON BEACH, CAL.

A o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(8000 - 7/12/74)

INGLEWOOD 395

COIN-OP / EconoMat / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / MANCHESTER & ISIS, INGLEWOOD

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album La 435 E; Kappen 8)

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / ISIS & MANCHESTER, INGLEWOOD, CAL.

B WM 32 (Rev 3)
(6000 - 6/27/73; Album La 435 D; Kappen 7)

LAKEWOOD 400

FOR USE ONLY AT / CAL STORES / #551 / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Glenn P Jopp (signature uncertain) / CARSON & PARAMOUNT, LAKEWOOD

A o WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(5000 - 11/7/72; 3000 - 1/19/73; 3000 - 2/13/73; Album La 462 A)

(obverse as above)

B o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(10000 - 7/23/73)

LANCASTER 405

FOR USE ONLY AT / Petro Lock / GASOLINE / Wayne Ulberg (signature) / 45315 N. TREVOR AVE., LANCASTER, CA.

A WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(4000 - 11/16/73; 4000 - 12/13/73; 4000 - 7/9/74; Album La 470 M)

FOR USE ONLY AT / GREEN PASTURES / Coin-op / GASOLINE / Paul S Hassan (signature) / AVE. K & 17TH ST. WEST, LANCASTER

B o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(4000 - 4/24/73; Album La 470 J)

(obverse as above)

C BZ 32 (Rev 3)
(8000 - 6/5/74; Album LA 470 K)

LAWNDALE 410

Coin-op / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / HAWTHORNE & 154TH ST., LAWNDALE

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album La 485 A; Kappen 1)

LONG BEACH 445

COIN - OP / EconoMat / GASOLINE / W.J. Oldaker (signature) / WOODRUFF & LOS COYOTES, LONG BEACH

A o WM 32 (Rev 1)
(Album La 495 EG)

LOS ANGELES 450

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / OLYMPIC & STONER, LOS ANGELES

A o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(6000 - 3/27/73; Album La 500 C54; Kappen 271)

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / VERMONT & CLINTON

B WM 32 (Rev 3)
(7000 - 7/13/73; Album La 500 C55)

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / SIXTH & FAIRFAX, LOS ANGELES

C WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(7000 - 10/5/73)

(obverse as above)

D WM 32 (Rev 3)
(Album La 500 C75)

FOR USE ONLY AT / FEDCO / STATION / G.T. van Den Huerg (signature uncertain) / LA CIENEGA & RODEO, L.A.

E o WM 31 (Rev 2b)
(8000 - 1/7/74; Album La 500 F27)

FOR USE ONLY AT / POWER GAS #3 / GASOLINE / Evert Day (signature uncertain) / 11748 W. Olympic., L.A., CA.

F WM 32 (Rev 5)

LYNWOOD 480

FOR USE ONLY AT / GAS-OP / GASOLINE / Gus Martin (signature) / 10400 LONG BEACH & STATE, LYNWOOD

A WM 32 (Rev 5)
(1500 - 2/1/77)

NORWALK 570

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / 10916 ROSECRANS BLVD., NORWALK, CAL.

A WM 32 (Rev 2b)
(8000 - 5/14/74)

OAKLAND 575

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / MACARTHUR & HIGH, OAKLAND, CAL.

A o WM 32 (Rev 3)
(6000 - 6/8/73; Album Ala 65 C47)

PASADENA 630

AUTOMATED / COACHMAN / HUDSON & WALNUT PASADENA (incomplete information)

A o WM 32 (reverse unknown)
(8000 - 2/13/73; known only from mint records)

FOR USE ONLY AT / FEDCO / STATION / G.T. van Den Huerg (signature) / PASADENA, CALIF.

B o WM 31 (Rev 4)
(8000 - 3/26/74; Album La 670 BA)

REDWOOD CITY 690

FOR USE ONLY AT / coin power / GASOLINE / Tom Jones (signature) / 699 EL CAMINO REAL & BREWSTER AVE, REDWOOD CITY

A WM 32 (Rev 2c)
(8000 - 5/7/75)

FOR USE ONLY AT / THE / SLOT MACHINE / GASOLINE / Gerald Colombi (signature uncertain) / HORGAN & WOODSIDE ROAD, REDWOOD CITY, CA.

B WM 32 (Rev 5)
(5000 - 2/1/77; 2000 - 9/7/77)

(To be continued)

= MARICOPA DUMP DIGGING =
by C. T. Ross

On a recent weekend my husband and I took off from our home in Riverdale, California, to do some token hunting. Our destination was the old dump in Maricopa. We had dug in this dump before and had always come up with a few worthwhile items. But this time when we arrived, you couldn't tell where the trash heads were. Due to the heavy rain we have had this year, every square inch of the dump was overgrown with brush. All that is except for a small area located down in the large ravine that runs by the west end of the dump.

It was in this area that my hu band, Carl, screened out several coins, three Maricopa tokens, two Taft tokens and numerous miscellaneous bottles. Naturally, no one else had ever screened this area before, and this was most probably because a large load of Asphalt had been dumped over the top of the trash.

On two subsequent trips there we finally managed to dig out a fairly large part of this area. The final result was four pumpkin seed (picnic) flasks, three Palmer's bottles (emerald green in color), several medicine and cosmetic bottles (some are embossed and others plain), and a few more coins. But this best find for us, since we primarily collect tokens, was the token from Goshen, Cal., and another from Auberry. We didn't have a token from either of these towns prior to this.

The token from Goshen is brass and 24 mm. in diameter. It reads RUSSELL'S HOTEL, J.E. RUSSELL, PROP., GOSHEN, CAL.; GOOD FOR 10 CENTS IN TRADE on reverse.

Certainly the Maricopa dump has yielded some good finds over the years, especially to us.

MORE POSTCARD COLLECTORS: - In addition to the names I listed previously, Elaine Willahan writes to tell me that she collects postcards, and is really hooked on them! Also, I note an advertisement in a collectors' publication by Dave Bowers in which he mentions his interest in postcards showing identifiable movie houses, vaudeville theatres and opera houses, as well as other interests. Anyone else want to add their name to the list? - DHF

BOOK REVIEW:

Sylvia Haffner, Judaic Tokens & Medals, published by American Israel Numismatic Association, Inc., 91-31 Queens Blvd., Elmhurst NY 11373, 402 pp., hardbound, price $25.

The basic text of this long awaited book by Judaica expert Syliva Haffner is divided into two section, the first covering medals (both Israel Government issues and private issues), the second tokens.

The medal section runs 193 pages, subdivided topically into 10 sections. Most of the pieces listed are photographed, and where warranted, profuse historical and other information is provided. The listings are alphabetical by name of issue within each category, and this is rather confusing for the non-specialist. A chronological arrangement, similar to that used by Grove in his work on Mexican medals, would have been more convenient.

Of more interest to us is the 197-page section on tokens, again divided into 6 parts, "Canteen and Military", "Charity, Community and Templar", "Cooperatives", "Historical", "Kibbutzim", and "Merchants". The listings comprise both metal and plastic tokens, and paper chits, of which the overwhelming majority are of the latter sort. There are about 20 metal pieces in the second subsection, and perhaps about 10 more in all the rest. The remainder of the listings are of paper chits. The early metal merchants tokens, such as those of the Palatin Hotel, J. Pross, Breisch & Co., and the Jerusalem Hotel, are curiously inserted in the "Charity..." section, not under "Merchants"!

The book is the first comprehensive catalog on Judaic tokens & medals yet to be published, but is quite obviously very incomplete. For example, the well-known transportation token, copy machine tokens, and telephone tokens of Israel are omitted. No mention of this omission can found in the introduction.

Although the listings are unpriced, the book comes with a postal card, which the buyer must mail in for a future price supplement. Eacy copy is serially numbered and the postcard has the same number. This theoretically will guarantee receipt of future price supplements. As of the date of writing, my supplement has not arrived, and I doubt they have been printed as yet.

The book is expensive, and sufficiently specialized that the general exonumist would not have need for a copy. However, because of the commercial value of Judaic tokens and medals, the book is essential for dealers.

BICENTENNIAL PROGRESS: I just completed the last of the photography of the California bicentennial medals, and will be taking them to the processor today. At the July 16 meeting at Duane's home, he and I will attempt the final assembly. I will stay over at his place for an extra day or two to get this project finished and ready for the printers. We haven't decided how to get the book printed, and that decision is going to depend on quotes from at least a couple of printers. We will have advance order forms included with the next Ledger.

TOKEN-HUNTING IN WEST CONTRA COSTA:
Part 2: Crockett, Hercules, Pinole, Point Richmond, Port Costa, Rodeo, and San Pablo

by Jerry F. Schimmel

As per my earlier intention as stated in the April 1978 Ledger, I made a check of the above towns and of as many of the tokens currently in use by their resident businesses as I could. These are almost invariably from bars or cocktail lounges. A list follows for those in use as of June 1978.

CROCKETT

:: Po 38 n/n (Chuck & Henry, Con 22P, still in use)

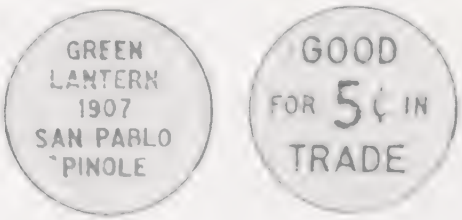
:: B 32 b/b (Club Tac, Con 22A, still in use)

:· A 32 b/b (Ray's Corner, Con 22 I, still in circulation, but not by business of original issue!)

:: Pe Re n/n (50x26 mm, white letters, flexible)
RAIN CHECK / PAY TO OUR PATRON / ONE: DRINK (sic) / GOOD ONLY AT / RAY'S CORNER CLUB. (sic) / CROCKETT CALIF. (sic)
(blank)

PINOLE

:: Pe 32 n/n (white letters)
THE / ANTLERS / TAVERN / PINOLE / CALIF.
Good For / 1 Well / Drink



:: Pw 23 n/n (black letters)
GREEN / LANTERN / 1907 / SAN PABLO / PINOLE
Good / For 5¢ In / Trade

:: Pb 28 n/n (white letters)
GREEN / LANTERN / 1907 SAN PABLO / PINOLE, CALIF. / 94564
Good / For 10¢ In / Trade

:: Pr 38 n/n (white letters)
GREEN / LANTERN / 1907 SAN PABLO AVE. / PINOLE, CALIF. / 94564
Good For / 25¢ / In Trade

:: Pg 32 n/n (white letters)
GREEN / LANTERN / 1907 SAN PABLO / AVE. / PINOLE, CAL. / 94564
Good For / 60¢ / In Trade

:: Pe 38 n/n (white letters)
GREEN / LANTERN / LOUNGE / 1907 SAN PABLO / PINOLE, CALIF.
Good For / 80¢ / In Drinks

:: Pe 32 n/n (white letters)
SILVER RIDGE / LOUNGE / APPIAN 80 CENTER / PINOLE / CAL.
Good For / One / Drink

POINT RICHMOND

:: Pr 32 n/n (white letters)
MARINERS / TAVERN / 101 PARK PLACE / PT. RICHMOND / CA.
Good For / One / Drink

SAN PABLO

:: Pg 28 n/n (white letters)
RICHMOND / MOOSE / LODGE / NO. 550
Good / For 5¢ In / Trade

:: Pb 32 n/n (white letters)
Good / For 10¢ In / Trade

:: Pr 32 n/n (white letters)
Good / For 25¢ In / Trade

INDIVIDUAL TOWN NOTES

Crockett

In Steve Album's Crockett listings quite a number of tokens were noted. The Velvet Hammer Bar (Con 22 V) was closed up when I drove through. The Club Tac still uses the same token (Con 22 A), but had painted some with a red "X" to indicate that those particular pieces were good for a beer instead of a hard drink. Ray's Corner Club did not use tokens any more (Con 22 I) due to a change in ownership, but those tokens and an unlisted black plastic "chit" from the same place were being accepted at Chuck & Henry's (Con 22 P) on Loring Avenue! The latter used its own token as well as the others. I had to buy

the Ray's Corner pieces at full drink value - 85¢ - [illegible]
bartender. The remaining Chuck & Henry's pieces were [illegible]
as to be unidentifiable, except for one or two of which
I took one.

Of all the towns in my survey Crockett is probably the prettiest and most interesting for history/collector buffs. It overlooks the Carquinez Straits with its twin cantilever bridges and the C&H Sugar Refinery. There are a number of pre-1900 buildings in the town reminiscent of the Gold Rush country towns. A new trade in antiques seems to be flourishing there. The present Ray's Corner Bar has a nice collection of old photographs of the town through the years as far back as the 1890's.

Hercules

There are no businesses as far as I can tell in this town. There has been some land annexation across I-80, and although there is a large new tract home area east of that route, there are no stores or bars. So, no tokens.

Pinole

Three bars in Pinole currently use tokens: The Antlers Tavern (the nicest), on the corner of San Pablo Avenue and Pinole Valley Road (one token); the Green Lantern at 1907 San Pablo Avenue between Appian Way and Pinole Valley Road (5 tokens!); and the Silver Ridge Lounge in the shopping center at I-80 and Appian Way (one token). The Green Lantern's 10¢ blue plastic is just about out-of-stock. Only occasionally do customers bring in any for redemption. Luckily I obtained one when there were three.

Point Richmond

The other nice West Contra Costa locale is "The Point" (Point Richmond), which is actually a part of the City of Richmond. Many older buildings still stand similar to those in Crockett of turn-of-the-century vintage. It has been "discovered", however, and is known as something of an artists and intellectuals' town. The Mariner's Tavern was the only one of five bars to use a token. The owner of this bar also owns the Silver Dollar on San Pablo Avenue in El Cerrito, so that a collector could probably go to either and pick up one from each bar.

Port Costa

Another interesting village about three miles east of Crockett has become a picturesque and sophisticated restaurant and antique store town, but no tokens. Inside Juanita's Galley (a restaurant bar that has to be seen to be believed), is a concessionnaire dealer in 'collectibles.' He has tokens, medals, pinbacks, sheet music, etc. He tends to charge what the traffic will bear. I suspect that to someone who knew the material, a reasonable buy could be made with some good pieces (and there seemed to be some older saloon tokens). Like many who

overcharge, this fellow seemed to know little about the material he sold, and cared even less about the customers.

(Ed. note: - The particular antique shop is Oliver's Oddities, which used to be in El Cerrito or thereabouts, but moved into Port Costa about 10-12 years ago. I was there a few weeks ago, and the only good token was a Pioneer Saloon, S.F., for $22.50, much too high. I bought a scarce 1932 Olympics commemorative medal for $15 (about the right price) and a German medal for the completion of the German Old Folks Home in Fruitvale, Cal. for $9.50, again just about right. In the past, I've picked up a few bargains there, but in general his prices are about double retail.)

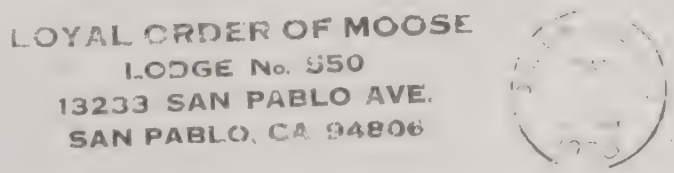
Rodeo

OF the five bars in this town none had tokens. The Wind Mill on the main street (Parker Ave.) apparently used some in the 1950's according to the bartender. He says that a relative of the owner has a box of these. I left my name and phone, and even made a return trip with no luck. Maybe someone else can get to them. If you do, let me know.

San Pablo

My lady friend lives here and so I have made the most exhaustive search of this town of any. It is much larger, too, than the others. I had little luck. Many places for which tokens were previously listed like the Contra Costa Cafe (Con 77 B,C), Jack's Crab Shack (Con 77 D E), and the Little Nugget (Con 77 H) are still in business, but do not use tokens. Even the Sambo's wouldn't give me one of its wooden nickels! The woman was afraid I would try to use it for a 35¢ cup of coffee (Pretty cheap, I think!).

The only San Pablo tokens I could locate were from the Moose Lodge No. 550. It had previously been located on McDonald Avenue in Richmond (see Con 73 Y Z AA AB). Below is a photo of the return address rubber stamp of this organization with the postmark giving its present address.



I obtained these tokens by writing and enclosing a dollar bill and a stamped self-addressed envelope.

Like many areas in western Contra Costa County, San Pablo has experienced an economic decline. It would be an interesting sociological experiment to see whether such a decline and the absence of tokens coincide. There has been a similar downturn in both Crockett and Richmond, and a decline of tokens use is so far evident there too. Conversely the town of El Sobrante, while small, is newer and more prosperous.

As I explore towns and neighborhoods for tokens use I increasingly associate the contemporary use of tokens with a healthy white working class which is earning "good money," a group of people who use a bar as a neighborhood "pub" like the British, and who have a few dollars a week to spare on a night out. Poor neighborhoods, areas with heavy racial or ethnic minorities, or wealthy neighborhoods are unlikely to have bars that use tokens. This is not a fixed rule, but a general observation. Food stamp tokens, of course, are more likely to be found in stores adjacent to low-income areas. These are ideas that are increasingly interesting to me.

NEXT: Tokens from El Cerrito and Richmond.

NEVADA BOTTLE BOOK: - WBSTS member Jack Haddock is working together with another collector on a book which will provide a reference listing on embossed Nevada bottles in all categories. In addition to bottle descriptions, the book will incorporate historical information, advertising, letterheads, etc. The book will also cover items that "go with" the bottles, such as tokens, hunting and fishing licenses, brass key tags, letterheads, and other items. Interested persons should inquire of Haddock at P.O. Box 7544, Reno, NV 89502, for further information. - DHF

TOKEN DISPENSING CLOCK FOR SALE: - One of the more popular articles recently in the Ledger was the one describing the clock which dispensed tokens (December 1977 issue). Dave Bowers advised me that a firm with which he is associated has one of these clocks for sale. For anyone interested and having the money (I am interested, but don't want to spend the money!), the clock is priced at $935.00 at American International Galleries, Inc., 1401 Kettering St., Irvine, CA 92714. - DHF

CHRISS CHRISTIANSEN: - We all want to wish Chriss Christiansen well in recovering from his latest series of operations. Over the years Chriss has had numerous operations and hospital stays relating to a problem in blood circulation. Most recently he had to have one leg amputated, and he is now recovering at home. Perhaps you will want to get in touch with Chriss to wish him well--call at 415-25204400, or his address is P.O. Box 651, Cupertino, CA 95014. - DHF

DRY CREEK, CALIFORNIA - Some time ago, I had occasion to wander up Dry Creek Road, a relatively unknown highway that leads north from Healdsburg to the site of the proposed Warm Springs Dam and Reservoir. I had known the town of Dry Creek was somewhere up there, but had never bothered to seek it out. Much to my amazement, I found the old Dry Creek store still in operation, in a ramshackle structure decidedly past its prime. The present owners knew nothing of the tokens, and had never heard of them, but informed me that the Goodyear family still operated a store in the vicinity, at Alexander Valley, also known as Jimtown, a bend in the road along state highway 128 a few miles north of Healdsburg. So I drove over, and spoke with the proprietor, Mr. Goodyear, who told me the following information.

The Goodyear enterprise at Dry Creek was begun in 1917, in what was then a new building, the one that still stands. The tokens were used in a dice game for cigars and near beer--the Goodyears were proud that they never succumbed to the temptation of dealing in bootleg stuff! The usual game was called Twenty-Six, and the idea was to have your number come up 26 times in 13 throws (the odds against this are extremely high, and I suspect that the actual number of throws was somewhat more, perhaps 18 or 20 or 21). Goodyear was no longer certain how the odds were figured or what the payoffs were, but he could tell me that the payoffs were made in tokens, which then had to be redeemed in cigars or near beer only. He thought the tokens were used during the 1920's, and their style confirms that. One of the known pieces appears to come from tokens acquired by Farran Zerbe from the sample trays of Moise-Klinkner, tokens supposedly made between about 1915 and 1922.

In 1930 or 1931, the Goodyears sold the store in Dry Creek, and opened their present place in Alexander Valley. Several owners have occupied the Dry Creek establishment successively, and the old tokens are long since forgotten.

There are a number of other locations in the area: Lytton or Lytton Springs, Cozzens Corner, Kellogg, Skaggs Springs (probably started by the same Skaggs who is known from an unlisted token put out by the Geyserville Hotel Bar), and others, all of which may have once had tokens. Only Cozzens Corner still has any operating businesses.

= THE MAVERICK =
by Edward Saunders

All of us who have been collecting tokens for any time have come to know what "maverick" means in token terms. It is the token that doesn't tell where it is from. These are the tokens which have given many of us endless hours of intrigue in searching them out. They present a challenge to the real collector when he has only a name or an adress to go on, and sometimes even less than this.

If you have been collecting any length of time, you surely have come across many of these unusual items known as the maverick. Some collectors like to collect only the tokens they have a certainty as to where they are from, but this takes away some of the real fun in this hobby. Yes, you can say "I know where all my tokens are from," but the maverick is a real joy when we find out where it is from, especially when it comes from a little known place. Some collectors will not be able to represent some localities because they won't collect the maverick.

I was looking through my maverick box, and some of the tokens are really nice. And one of these days, some will be identified. I have many that will probably never be located, but one always seems to come across someone who knew the place of business, or a collector in another area who knows where the tokens was used.

Let's look at some tokens and see if they don't have a certain aura of appeal. Some are interesting even without knowing where they are from.

The first is a token that just says S.L. CROSS. I got it from a kid when I first started collecting. I traded him a silver ring for four tokens--this maverick, two different tokens from Williams, Cal., and a token from Willows, Cal. I believe the maverick to be from the area near these two towns. Album lists a token from Arbuckle for Herb Cross, and he may be a relative. *(Note by DHF: For 1920, there is a listing for a Paul W. Cross, garage, in Williams.)*

The next few pieces are from a bunch of tokens I got from the feeb, as we called him. They were in a bucket of scrap which came out of the Turlock area. In the bunch there

were about 25 different towns, most coming from the vicinity of Modesto. Included were Fouts Springs, Fairmead, Modesto, Manteca, Antioch, Capitola, Turlock, Tracy, Lemoore, Black Diamond, Fresno, Grass Valley, Gustine, Livermore, Monterey, Oakdale (several different), Niles, Orcutt, Pittsburg, Sacramento, San Mateo, San Francisco, Santa Cruz, Soquel, Stockton, Speckels and probably a few other towns I have forgotten. But in the bunch were 50 to 75 more from the area of Modesto and Tracy. There were also several Patterson pieces including a half dozen of the Watson & Mack pieces. Then there were a number of mavericks, some of which have really intrigued me. I have longed to find information on these few pieces. I have one that says V.E. BROWNE - MONEY - TO LOAN; this is in a frame, and I cannot remember what is on the reverse; it is about the size of a quarter.

The maverick is everywhere, sometimes many miles from its place of origin. Below is a selection of tokens that are quite distinctive, and some should be able to be identified. With all the work I have done, I have been unable to come up with any real cluses as to where they are from. Perhaps some of you will know more than I do!

When given half a chance, the maverick can be very interesting, and it is one of the challenges that we have in the hobby that cannot be found in many others. The lowly maverick has been shunned by many, but to those that know her, we have come to find some real enjoyment in the adventures it has in store for us.

MAUDUIT & COMPNIE: - Listed under San Francisco is an old token for Mauduit & Compnie, made of pewter, [illegible] diameter, inscribed on the reverse "Cercle de San Francisco / 1/2 / Dollar." Some time back I had an inquiry from someone about the piece, and I was unable to come up with anything relating to Mauduit & Co. in any of the old directories I searched. Does anyone have any information relating to this piece which is listed as Album Sfo 80 M65, Kappen San Francisco 465, B.P Wright 675, Adams 8 and Miller 8? - DHF

SS REX TOKENS: Listed by Album as LA 500 51 and 55, and by Kappen as Los Angeles 907 and 909, are tokens used on the SS Rex, a gambling ship anchored off the coast of Los Angeles in international waters in the 1930's. I need rubbings or loan of the tokens for photography to help complete an article I am preparing on ship tokens from California. Can you help? - DHF

BACK ISSUES FOR SALE: - There is still a large inventory of back issues of the *GAZETTE* available for sale, and there are several orders on hand waiting to be processed. If you want to fill in your files, why not check back to see what is available and place your order right away. Then I can assemble all the orders at one time. - DHF

DESIRE EARLY TOKENS from motion picture theatres, vaudeville theatres, opera houses, all states, pre-1930. Also tokens from Cripple Creek, Georgetown, Idaho Springs, Central City, and Victor, Colorado. Also "Good For One Tune" and other nickel-size tokens used in pianos.
Dave Bowers Box 1669 Beverly Hills, CA 90210

WANTED: NEVADA-CALIFORNIA trade tokens--buy or trade.
J.L. McPheeters 472 W. Monterey Ave. Stockton, CA 95204

WANTED: ORE. AND CAL. encased cents. Need Siskiyou, Shasta and Lassen County tokens. Will trade tokens out of my collection from your area for equivalent pieces from mine.
Edward Saunders 2746 NE 52nd Ave. Portland, OR 97213

HAVE FOR TRADE OR WILL CONSIDER cash offer on "Post Exchange, Fort Huachaca, A.T." G/F 5 brass, and Nevada tokens from Mary Mine, Owyhee, Delamar, Columbia, Manhattan and Searchlight. Most of these are saloon or scarcer tokens. Send pp return envelope or your trade offer for list. I collect NV: tokens by town, brass key tags, and embossed bottles.
Jack Haddock P.O. Box 7544 Reno, NV 89502

WANTED--SLOT MACHINE TOKENS with the names Mills, Caille, Fey, Pace, Watling only. No amusement types.
Phil Balkan 5860 Tobias Ave. Van Nuys, CA 91411

ODD COMBINATION of a ghost town and military item all in one. Two different red fiber tool checks from Pando, Colorado. Used in the construction of Camp Hale during WW II. Small size: Pando Constr. / (number) / U.S. War Dept. Large size: Pando / Constructors/ (number) / U.S. War . Dept. Only $1 each!
James Andrews 1119 Poplar St. Leadville, CO 80461

WANTED--GASOLINE VENDING and service station tokens. Buy or trade.
Merlin R. Null P.O. Box 9422 N. Hollywood, CA 91609

FERRIS WHEEL MEDALS wanted. I have duplicates for trade.
Robert Lubetkin 3660 Grand Des Moines, IA 50312

PLEASE TAKE NOTE that I am no longer collecting "Large Size Indian Lucky Souvenir Coins," "Small Size Exonumia Featuring Indians" and "Entertainment" tokens. I have sold these collections. However, I am still collecting spinners, tokens which say "Amusement Co." or "Novelty Co." and mirrors with encased coins.
Don Finch P.O. Box 4875 Ventura, CA 93003

WILLIGES HAS PAID CASH for 5,298 tokens and medals this year. Many more collections and accumulations needed. Paying high prices. Free 20 page fixed price list.
Bill Williges Box 445 Wheatland, CA 95692

INFORMATION WANTED: does anyone have information about a 5¢ oblong wooden nickel issued in Sutter Creek in 1940 for its Gold Rush and Pageant of the Hills Celebration? Have had an inquiry on such an item.
Orville Scharffer P.O. Box 649 Sutter Creek, CA 95685

PERSONAL TOKENS ANYONE? Prices on plastic tokens will be increased about 25% on December 1, 1978, so now is the time to buy! Also have use of WESTS logo for reverse on metal tokens. 20% discount from list for personals.
Duane H. Feisel P.O. Box 1302 Los Altos, CA 94022

FRONTIERTOWN, MONTANA, aluminum, unc. 5¢, 10¢ and 25¢. Have 100 each $25.00 p/p. Some extras--set of 3 for 50¢ plus stamped addressed envelope.
John G. Nicolosi 3002 Galindo St. Oakland, CA 94601

WANTED: SOUTH DAKOTA tokens, medals, etc. Also want chrome savings banks and advertising pocket whet stones.
Jim Rasmussen Box 214192 Sacramento, CA 95821

WANTED--"Good For" tokens having the shape of a horse's head. Purchase or trade.
Littlefield 4841 Hannover St. Louis, MO 63123

TO TRADE: Royal arch chapter pennies. Need old CA & NV hunting and fishing licenses. Also will buy CA & NV "good for" tokens.
Grover C. Davis 1503 Tehema Corning, CA 96021

MEMBERS ARE ALLOWED A FREE SIX-LINE AD IN EACH ISSUE. A DIFFERENT AD MUST BE SUBMITTED EACH TIME. PLEASE PUT YOUR AD ON A SEPARATE PIECE OF PAPER, AND DO NOT INCLUDE IT AS PART OF A LETTER. PLEASE SUBMIT IT AS FAR AS POSSIBLE IN ADVANCE OF THE PUBLICATION DEADLINE. NEXT ISSUE DEADLINE IS SEPTEMBER 15.

BOOKS FINALLY AVAILABLE!: - Orders accepted for the several different books mentioned in the preceeding issue will be in your hands shortly. After a long delay, an initial shipment was received, but not all the books were included. It turns out that the "Washington State Place Names" book was sold out in paperback, so I had to reorder it in cloth cover. Those who have already paid for their order will be invoiced for the difference ($2.52). Anyone not wanting the higher priced edition my return it to me for a full refund. - DHF

Calendar of Coming Events

SEPTEMBER 14-17 - Thursday through Sunday. 1978 Coin Show & Exposition of the Northern California Numismatic Association, Jack Tar Hotel, San Francisco. 10 AM to 10 PM except 5 PM closing on Sunday.

OCTOBER 5-8 - Thursday through Sunday. Long Beach Coin & Stamp Fall Exposition, Long Beach Convention Center, Long Beach, California. Hours 10 AM to 9 PM except 5 PM closing on Sunday.

OCTOBER 27-29 - Friday through Sunday. 63rd Semi-Annual Convention of the California State Numismatic Association, Airport Marina Hotel, Los Angeles. Hours 10 AM to 10 PM except 5 PM closing on Sunday.

OCTOBER MEETING????: - As mentioned in the last issue of the *LEDGER*, WESTS has been invited to hold a meeting during the Cal State Numismatic Association convention at the Airport Marina Hotel, Los Angeles, October 27-29. The best day for such a meeting would be on Saturday, but a chairman (coordinator, organizer, leader or whatever) is needed to spearhead things. There has been absolutely no response from any of the Southern California members to my earlier plea. Do you want such a meeting? If so, I will need to know who will chair it prior to putting out the next issue--which means right away! - DHF

NOVEMBER SEMI-ANNUAL WESTS MEETING: - As has been our custom, WESTS will again hold its fall general membership meeting during the time of the Delta Coin Club annual convention which is normally scheduled for the second weekend in November. Apparently there are some changes in store this year as I called the Holiday Inn, where the concention has been held in the past, and they have no knowledge of a 1978 convention. As soon as more specific information is available, it will be reported here. - DHF

JULY MEETING: - A regional meeting of WESTS was combined with a meeting of the Bay Area Token Society (BATS) on Sunday, July 16, at the home of Duane & Shannon Feisel in Los Altos, California. Conviviality was the order of the day with a buffet lunch featuring a large roast turkey, swimming, conversation, relaxing, etc., combined with the usual buying, selling and swapping of tokens. Attending were Clyde Spofford, Bill del Palacio, Hal, Louis and Mark Ford, John Coffee, Ron and Anita Lerch, Scott Jameson, Chuck Nichols, Bud Carmichael, Dan Jacobson, Jerry Schimmel, Frank Earl, Dale Noll, Steve Album, Benj Fauver, Jere Runciman, John Reynolds, and the hosts. There seemed to be quite a number of tokens changing hands! - DHF

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First Class Mail